Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (Currently amended): A digital signature generating apparatus that generates a digital signature of digital data, comprising:

a receiving unit that receives one of a first command and a second command, the first command including information indicating one of a plurality of secret keys, the plurality of secret keys being included in the digital signature generating apparatus;

a secret key changing unit that changes a secret key used by the digital signature generating apparatus to a secret key specified by the first command, if the first command is received by the receiving unit; and

a digital signature generating unit that generates the digital signature of the digital data ~~using the secret key specified by the first command~~ from a hash value extracted from the second command, if the second command is received by the receiving unit.

Claim 2 (Previously presented): The digital signature generating apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the digital signature generating apparatus is an IC card.

- 3 -

Claim 3 (Previously presented): The digital signature generating apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the digital signature generating apparatus is an apparatus including a multi-application operating system.

Claims 4-13 (Cancelled).

Claim 14 (Previously presented): The digital signature generating apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:

a storage unit that stores the plurality of secret keys.

Claim 15 (Previously presented): The digital signature generating apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the digital data includes image data.

Claim 16 (Previously presented): The digital signature generating apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the receiving unit receives the digital data from an external device, the digital data being used to generate the digital signature of the digital data.

Claim 17 (Previously presented): The digital signature generating apparatus according to claim 16, wherein the digital signature generating unit generates a hash value of the digital data from the digital data in order to generate the digital signature of the digital data.

Claim 18 (Previously Presented): The digital signature generating apparatus according to claim 17, wherein the digital signature generating unit encrypts the hash value of the digital data using the secret key specified by the first command, in order to generate the digital signature of the digital data.

- 4 -

Claim 19 (Previously presented): The digital signature generating apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the receiving unit receives a hash value of the digital data from an external device, the hash value being used to generate the digital signature of the digital data.

Claims 20-28 (Cancelled).

Claim 29 (New) A method for controlling a digital signature generating apparatus that generates a digital signature of digital data, the method comprising:

a receiving step of receiving one of a first command and a second command, the first command including information indicating one of a plurality of secret keys, the plurality of secret keys being included in the digital signature generating apparatus;

a secret key changing step of changing a secret key used by the digital signature generating apparatus to a secret key specified by the first command, if the first command is received in the receiving step; and

a digital signature generating step of generating the digital signature of the digital data from a hash value extracted from the second command, if the second command is received in the receiving step.

Claim 30 (New) The method according to claim 29, wherein the digital signature generating apparatus is an IC card.

Claim 31 (New) The method according to claim 29, wherein the digital signature generating apparatus is an apparatus including a multi-application operating system.

Claim 32 (New) The method according to claim 29, wherein the digital signature generating apparatus includes a storage unit that stores the plurality of secret keys.

Claim 33 (New) The method according to claim 29, wherein the digital data includes image data.